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J1011 U.S. PTO
10/034168
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I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited on December 28, 2001, with the U.S. Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service, No. EL920452358US under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box PATENT APPLICATION, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Jessica Brown
Jessica Brown

December 28, 2001

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Client: San-A Patent Attorneys
Matter No. 500014-93
U.S. Patent Application
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIAGNOSING ABNORMALITY
AND ESTIMATING DEGRADATION IN VALVE APPARATUS
Subject: Transmitting Patent Application for Filing

Sir:

We enclose for filing the patent application of:

Inventor(s): Haruo ITO, Susumu WATANABE and Tomoaki SUMITA

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIAGNOSING ABNORMALITY AND
ESTIMATING DEGRADATION IN VALVE APPARATUS

The application includes:

Cover + 29 pages of specification, claims and abstract;
Six (6) sheet(s) of drawing(s);
Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition;
Information Disclosure Statement with two (2) references;
Check No. 024463 in the Amount of \$1,020.00 for Filing Fee;
Assignment Papers for Recordation and check no. 024462 for \$40 recordation fee; and
Return Postcard

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Commissioner for Patents

December 28, 2001

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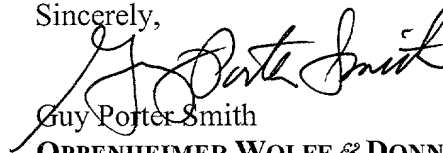
The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	No. Filed	No. Extra	Small Entity		Other Than Small Entity	
Basic Fee	\$740.00					\$740
Total Claims	14	0				
Ind. Claims	2	0				
Multiple Dependent Claims - 2						\$280
TOTAL						\$1,020

We authorize the Commissioner to charge any additional filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, which may be required now or during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 16-2230. We enclose a duplicate copy of this sheet.

Please stamp the filing date on the enclosed post card and return it to us.

Sincerely,



Guy Porter Smith

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY LLP

GPS/jb

Enclosures

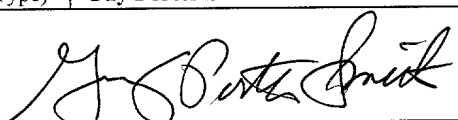
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PTO/SB/05 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0032

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL		Attorney Docket No. 500014-93	
		First Inventor Haruo ITO	
		Title METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIAGNOSING ABNORMALITY AND ESTIMATING DEGRADATION IN VALVE APPARATUS	
(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))		Express Mail Label No. EL920452358US	
APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.		Commissioner of Patents ADDRESS TO: Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231	
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Fee Transmittal Cover Letter (e.g. PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)		7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.27)		8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (If applicable, all necessary) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy b. Specification Sequence Listing on: i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies	
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification Total Pages (Cover + 29) (preferred arrangement set forth below) - Descriptive title of the invention - Cross References to Related Applications - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Detailed Description of the Drawings - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure		ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS	
4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) Total Sheets (6 -- Figs 1-6)		9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))	
5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oath or Declaration a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) i. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)</u> Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).		10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power of (when there is an assignee) Attorney	
6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76		11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable)	
		12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations	
		13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment	
		14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)	
		15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)	
		16. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION , check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheets under 37 CFR 1.76 <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application no.: _____ Prior application information: Examiner: _____ Group / Art Unit: _____ For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.			
18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS			
<input type="checkbox"/> Customer No. or Bar Code Label		or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below	
		(insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)	
Address Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly LLP, 2029 Century Park East, Suite 3800			
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Name (Print/Type)	Guy Porter Smith	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	20,142
Signature			Date December 28, 2001